

Historical and Cultural Affairs

The historic preservation and museums newsletter of the Delaware Division of Historical and Cultural Affairs.

Dec. 29, 2020 * Volume 13, Issue 12

News

Delaware Breakwater East End Lighthouse repainted

Built in 1885, the beacon is located in the harbor of Lewes, Del.

[Read more ...](#)



Delaware Breakwater East End Lighthouse after being repainted.

Division to sponsor four virtual programs during January 2021

Cross-stitching, the wreck of the DeBraak, artist Francis Barraud and forgotten presidents to be explored.

[Read more ...](#)

“Stitching on the Light: A Virtual Stitch Along”

Online cross-stitch embroidery program from the Zwaanendael Museum during January 2021.

[Read more ...](#)

287th Army Band video-records performances at Buena Vista

Videos part of the band's virtual holiday-concert-series, “The 12 Days of Christmas.”

[Read more ...](#)

Video explores the lives of four enslaved people and an abolitionist

Created in celebration of Delaware Day which honors the anniversary of Delaware becoming the first state to ratify the U.S. Constitution on Dec. 7, 1787.

[Read more ...](#)

Division museums open with tours by appointment

Tours allow visitors to experience the history of the First State while continuing to take all recommended steps to safeguard public health.

[Read more ...](#)

[Go here for more news items ...](#)

Help Save Delaware History

Town seeks historical information about First National Bank of Frankford

Built in 1907, the structure later served as town hall for over six decades.

[Read more ...](#)

Preservation Delaware initiative documenting oral histories of African American schools

Dover Post, Del. — Dec. 18, 2020

Project will add to research gathered on schools for Black students prior to desegregation.

[Read more ...](#)

“Partners in Preservation: Planning for the Future — Delaware’s Historic Preservation Plan, 2018–2022”

Document outlines six broad goals for preserving Delaware’s heritage for the future.

[Read more ...](#)

Media Roundup

The following Delaware history-related articles have recently appeared in the media:

[Wreck of the DeBraak virtual program slated Jan. 7](#)

Cape Gazette, Lees, Del. — Dec. 27, 2020

Zwaanendael Museum to explore the history of the British warship DeBraak which sank off Lewes in 1798.

[The Battle of Cooch’s Bridge](#)

The 302, MeTV2, Wilmington, Del. — Dec. 25, 2020

Television segment on the only Revolutionary War battle fought in Delaware.

[Small Towns, Big Appeal](#)

Baltimore Magazine, Md. — December 2020 issue

New Castle, Del. one of the featured towns.

Press coverage of “Delaware Day 2020 — Expanding the Delaware Story”

Division’s video series exploring the lives of four enslaved individuals and an abolitionist.

[Delaware Day video explores the lives of enslaved people, abolitionist](#)

Dover Post, Del. — Dec. 10, 2020

[Expanding the Delaware Story video released for Delaware Day](#)

Cape Gazette, Lewes, Del. — Dec. 8, 2020

[Commentary: On Delaware Day, remember all in state’s history](#)

Op-ed by Division of Historical and Cultural Affairs Director Tim Slavin

Delaware State News, Dover — Dec. 7, 2020

[New focus for ‘Delaware Day’ holiday tells history of enslaved people](#)

WHYY, Philadelphia, Pa. — Dec. 7, 2020

Commentary: Reflecting on Delaware's past, shaping a path forward

Op-ed by Delaware Secretary of State Jeffrey W. Bullock

Delaware State News, Dover — Dec. 6, 2020

First State takes a different approach to Delaware Day

Delaware First Media, Dover — Dec. 4, 2020

Delaware Day video series focuses on slavery

Delaware State News, Dover — Dec. 1, 2020

Articles exploring Wilmington, Del. history and culture in the wake of Joe Biden's election as president

New York Times finds Biden's Delaware hometown on a map

Philadelphia Inquirer, Pa. — Dec. 8, 2020

After Centuries of Obscurity, Wilmington Is Having a Moment

New York Times, N.Y. — Dec. 6, 2020

Events

Saturday, Jan. 2, 9, 16, 23 and 30

Stitching on the Light: A Virtual Stitch Along – Virtual program from the Zwaanendael Museum

Thursday, Jan. 7

The Wreck of the DeBraak – Virtual program from the Zwaanendael Museum

Friday, Jan. 22

Francis Barraud: His Master's Voice – Virtual program from the Johnson Victrola Museum

Saturday, Jan. 23

Forgettable/Forgotten Presidents – Virtual program from the New Castle Court House Museum

For a long-term calendar of division-sponsored events, [go here](#).

Exhibits and Displays

The five museums of the State of Delaware are currently presenting the following exhibits and displays. In keeping with Gov. Carney's Phase II guidance for reopening the state in wake of the coronavirus pandemic, the museums are open for self-guided tours via reservation only.

Ongoing

Delaware Railroads: Elegant Travel and Timely Transport – Zwaanendael Museum

Drawing America to Victory: The Persuasive Power of the Arts in World War I – Online

Five Stories – John Dickinson Plantation

Letters From a Farmer in Pennsylvania – Online

New Castle: Three Forts, One Community – New Castle Court House Museum

The Old State House: A True Restoration 1976-2016 – The Old State House

The Path to Freedom: A History of the Underground Railroad in Delaware – New Castle Court House Museum

Sculpture by Charles Parks – New Castle Court House Museum

Simple Machines – John Dickinson Plantation

For additional opportunities to explore Delaware history online, go to the [Delaware Digital History Museum](#).



Historical and Cultural Affairs

The historic-preservation and museums newsletter of the Delaware Division of Historical and Cultural Affairs.

Historical and Cultural Affairs is designed to stimulate public interest in the division's museums, programs and services, and to increase awareness of the value that history and historic preservation bring to the lives of Delaware's citizens and visitors. The newsletter is distributed during the last week of each month, via e-mail, to division staff members, Delaware's historical- and preservation-related communities and friends. Please submit relevant articles, news items and suggestions to Jim Yurasek, newsletter editor, at jim.yurasek@delaware.gov.

Non-Discrimination Statement and Acknowledgement of Support

If you would like to be added to, or removed from, the e-newsletter mailing list, please e-mail the editor.

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